

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TOKYO 05956 221043Z

44

ACTION SS-25

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R 220948Z APR 76
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8670
INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG
USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 5956

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: AINR, PFOR, CH, JA
SUBJECT: PUBLICATIONS PROCUREMENT: JAPANESE PROPOSAL

REF: HONG KONG 4315

1. WITH REFTEL IN MIND, WE BROACHED SUBJECT VERY GENERALLY OF INCREASED USG-GOJ EXCHANGE WITH CHINA DIVDIR FUJITA. FROM THE CONVERSATION IT WAS EVIDENT THAT THE PROPOSAL IN HONG KONG WAS A LOCAL INITIATIVE. NEVERTHELESS, FUJITA CLEARLY FAVORS INCREASED EXCHANGE WHETHER IN HONG KONG OR TOKYO.

2. IT WOULD BE MOST UN-JAPANESE FOR THE CONGEN OFFICIAL TO HAVE MADE A PROPOSAL IF IT WERE NOT SERIOUS, WHETHER IDEA ORIGINATED IN HONG KONG OR IN TOKYO. WHILE WE ARE NOT OF COURSE IN ANY POSITION TO COMMENT ON UTILITY OR MODALITIES OF ARRANGEMENTS CONGEN HONG KONG MAY WISH TO MAKE, PROPOSAL RINGS TRUE TO US. WHEN PLATT WAS VISITING HONG KONG IN MARCH, ASAKAI MENTIONED OFTEN HOW SHORT-HANDED HIS POLITICAL SECTION WAS. ARRANGEMENT WITH CONGEN MIGHT BE PART OF EFFORT TO FREE PEOPLE USED FOR PROCUREMENT TO DO MORE ANALYSIS. CULTURAL REVOLUTION DEAL FELL THROUGH BECAUSE JAPANESE HAD LITTLE OR NOTHING TO OFFER AS QUID PRO QUO. IN THIS CASE, MONEY APPEARS TO THE QUID.
HODGSON

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